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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/527,328	09/22/2005	Koji Okomori	159-87	3539
23117	7590	11/15/2006	EXAMINER	
NIXON & VANDERHYE, PC 901 NORTH GLEBE ROAD, 11TH FLOOR ARLINGTON, VA 22203			SHEWAREGED, BETELHEM	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1774	

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/527,328

Applicant(s)

OKOMORI ET AL.

Examiner

Betelhem Shewareged

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's response filed on 08/29/2006 has been fully considered. The Double Patenting rejection and the 35 USC 103 rejection over Kai in view of Hirose and Ryu have been withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments and comments.
2. Claims 2-4 are amended, and claims 1-5 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kai et al. (JP 2002-088679) in view of Matsumura et al. (JP 2002-161494) and Ryu et al. (US 2001-288690).
5. Kai discloses a coated paper for gravure printing comprising a coated layer having an adhesive and a pigment on a base paper, wherein kaolin having a particle size in a range of 0.4-4.2 gm is contained in an amount of 65% or more based on the volume, is contained as the pigment in an amount of 50 parts by weight or more per 100 parts by weight of the pigment (abstract). Kai further discloses that the organic pigment may be contained in the coating composition [0014]. Kai does not disclose hollow pigment as the organic pigment.

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6. Matsumura teaches a gravure printing paper containing a paper and a coating layer containing hollow organic pigment provided on the paper (abstract), wherein the hollow pigment has a particle size of 0.2-0.5 μm [0011].
7. Kai and Matsumura are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor that is the gravure coated paper art. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the hollow organic pigment of Matsumura with the invention of Kai so as to improve the glossiness property of the layer, provide precise coating and improve drying property of the layer ([0012] of Matsumura).
8. With respect to claim 3, at the time of the invention, it is notoriously known to add amorphous silicate in the paper so as to control flexibility while retaining mechanical strength (see [0010] of Ryu).
9. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kai et al. (JP 2002-088679) in view of Sasaki et al. (JP 11-279990) and Ryu et al. (US 2001-288690).
10. Kai discloses a coated paper for gravure printing comprising a coated layer having an adhesive and a pigment on a base paper, wherein kaolin having a particle size in a range of 0.4-4.2 μm is contained in an amount of 65% or more based on the volume, is contained as the pigment in an amount of 50 parts by weight or more per 100 parts by weight of the pigment (abstract). Kai further discloses that the organic pigment

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may be contained in the coating composition [0014]. Kai does not disclose hollow pigment as the organic pigment.

11. Sasaki teaches a gravure printing paper containing a paper and a coating layer containing hollow organic pigment provided on the paper (abstract), wherein the hollow pigment has a particle size of 0.4-2.0 μm [0016].

12. Kai and Sasaki are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor that is the gravure coated paper art. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the hollow organic pigment of Sasaki with the invention Kai so as to enhance the ink receiving property of the layer.

13. With respect to claim 3, at the time of the invention, it is notoriously known to add amorphous silicate in the paper so as to control flexibility while retaining mechanical strength (see [0010] of Ryu).

14. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kai et al. (JP 2002-088679) in view of Hayashi et al. (JP 06-235194) and Ryu et al. (US 2001-288690).

15. Kai discloses a coated paper for gravure printing comprising a coated layer having an adhesive and a pigment on a base paper, wherein kaolin having a particle size in a range of 0.4-4.2 μm is contained in an amount of 65% or more based on the volume, is contained as the pigment in an amount of 50 parts by weight or more per 100 parts by weight of the pigment (abstract). Kai further discloses that the organic pigment

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may be contained in the coating composition [0014]. Kai does not disclose hollow pigment as the organic pigment.

16. Hayashi teaches a gravure printing paper containing a paper and a coating layer containing hollow organic pigment provided on the paper (abstract), wherein the hollow pigment has a particle size of 0.5-3.0 μm [0004].

17. Kai and Hayashi are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor that is the gravure coated paper art. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the hollow organic pigment of Hirose with the invention of Kai so as to enhance the printing property and glossiness of the layer.

18. With respect to claim 3, at the time of the invention, it is notoriously known to add amorphous silicate in the paper so as to control flexibility while retaining mechanical strength (see [0010] of Ryu).

Response to Arguments

19. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

20. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Betelhem Shewareged whose telephone number is 571-272-1529. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8:00AM-4:30PM.

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21. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rena Dye can be reached on 571-272-3186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

22. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

B.S.
November 11, 2006.


BETELHEM SHEWAREGED
PRIMARY EXAMINER